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THE
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for the

**Daughters of the
American Revolution**



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Helen M. and Kate T. Boardman

CALENDAR

FOR THE

Daughters of the American Revolution



SELECTED AND ARRANGED

BY

Elen M. and Kate T. Boardman



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The hills beyond the river lay yesterday at sunset lost in purple gloom ; they receded into airy distances of dream, they sank softly into night, the peaks of the "delectable mountains." But I knew as I gazed enchanted that the hills so purple, soft of seeming, were hard, and gray, and barren, in the wintry twilight, and that in the distance was the magic that made them fair. So beyond the river of time that flows between, walked the brave men, and the beautiful women of our ancestry, grouped in twilight upon the shore.

Distance smoothes away defects, and with gentle darkness rounds every form into grace. It steals a harshness from their speech, and every word becomes a song. Far across the gulf that ever widens they look upon us with eyes whose glance is tender, and which light us to success. We acknowledge our inheritance; we accept our birthright. We own that their careers have pledged us to noble action. Every great life is an incentive to all other lives. This is the true pride of ancestry.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.



CALENDAR.

JANUARY 1.

And now another cup of the generous; and a merry New Year and many of them to you, my masters.—Lamb.

1780—Arrival of Martha Washington at Morristown.

Fearless graced she camp and cabin, Middlebrook and —
Morristown,

. . . . While the hand that erst touched spinnet, wafted
fan or turned the wheel,

Still more gently soothed the suffering, kindling fires of
patient zeal.

—Julia C. Jones.

Anthony Wayne born 1745.

2

1777—Battle of Asumpink.

3

1777—Battle of Princeton.

4

1778—Battle of the Kegs.

The “infernals,” as the British called them, were prepared by David Bushnell. . . . The incident gave rise to the most popular ballad of the Revolution,

JANUARY—Continued.

by Judge Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and father of Joseph Hopkinson, the author of "Hail Columbia."—American Monthly Magazine.

5

Washington never bought or sold a slave—a proof of the highest and most intelligent humanity.—Parkinson.

6

1759—Washington's wedding day.

Years have rolled beyond the century,

All these scenes have passed away;

But the bride from old Virginia

In each heart is here to-day.

—Julia C. Jones.

7

Israel Putnam born 1718.

The obscure young farmer of 1743 had every distinguishing characteristic of the brave "Old Put" of '76.—Colonial Magazine.

8

1780—Washington writes on the 8th of January: For a fortnight past the troops, both officers and men, have been almost perishing with want; yet they have borne their sufferings with a patience that merits the approbation and ought to excite the sympathies of their countrymen.—Washington Irving.

9

1788—Ratification and adoption of the Constitution in the name of the people of the State of Connecticut.

4

JANUARY 10

Ethan Allen born 1737.

At Bennington also we meet with one of the striking figures of the exploit—Ethan Allen, the pride of the Green Mountain Boys. Eccentric and fearless, with one hundred and fifty comrades of his own stamp, he added momentum to the force and picturesqueness to the character of the expedition.—Professor Henry P. Johnson.

11

Alexander Hamilton born 1757.

Whether he speaks or writes he is equally great. . . . Among great men anywhere Alexander Hamilton would be felt to be great.—Republican Court.

12

The hounds met three times a week in the season—usually at Mt. Vernon, sometimes at Belvoir. They would get off at daybreak—Washington in the midst of his hounds, splendidly mounted, generally on his favorite Blueskin, a powerful iron-gray horse.—American Statesmen.

13

When Franklin was told in Paris that Howe had taken Philadelphia, his reply was, “Philadelphia has taken Howe.”—American Statesmen.

14

It was the practice of Washington to communicate with Congress only by written messages, except at the commencement of each session, when he met in person both branches in joint assembly.—Republican Court.

JANUARY 15

1781—Tarleton reached the Parcelot in the evening, but halted on observing some troops on the opposite bank. It was merely a party of observation which Morgan had left there, but he supposed that officer to be there in full force.

16

An honest heart being the first blessing, a knowing head the second; . . . a strong body makes the mind strong.—Thomas Jefferson.

17

Battle of Cowpens, 1781. The British defeated.

Benjamin Franklin born 1706. By the instructions which he gave, by his discoveries, by his inventions, by his achievements in public life, he earns the distinction of having rendered to men varied and useful services excelled by no other one man.—John F. Morse, Jr.

18

They admired Franklin because he did not wear a wig; they lauded his spectacles; they were overcome with enthusiasm as they contemplated his great cap of Martin fur, his scrupulously white linen, and the quaint simplicity of his brown Quaker raiment of Colonial make.—John T. Morse, Jr.

19

Undertake not to teach your equal in the art himself professes; it savors of arrogancy.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

20

Richard Henry Lee born 1732.

6

JANUARY 21

Richard Henry Lee, the man selected to address the people of Great Britain on the eve of the Revolution, to give the first instructions to General Washington, to propose the initial resolution of the Declaration of Independence, is not likely to be forgotten.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

22

Of that honorable band of South Carolinians, men of birth and fortune, who stood forth at the outset of the Revolution, no one brought more accomplishments or a better zeal to the cause than Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.—National Portrait Gallery.

23

John Hancock born 1737.

Then Squire Hancock, like a man
Who dearly loved the nation,
By a concil'atory plan
Prevented much vexation.

—Evert A. Duyckinck.

24

Dost thou love life? then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.—Benjamin Franklin.

25

The patriot, John Hancock, in 1792, wore a red velvet cap, blue damask gown lined with velvet, a white stock, and white satin embroidered waistcoat, black satin small clothes, white silk stockings, and red morocco slippers.—American Monthly Magazine.

JANUARY 26

A tailor's advertisement in the *New York Gazetteer*, 1773, says: A general assortment of scarlet, buff, green, crimson, white, sky-blue, and other colored superfine cloths. A neat assortment of gold and silver lace; gold and silver spangled buttons; gold buttons with loops and bands; silver-ground gold brocade for hats.—*American Monthly Magazine*.

27

Mock not, nor jest at anything of importance; break no jests that are sharp or biting, and if you deliver anything witty or pleasant, abstain from laughing thereat yourself.—*Washington's Rules of Behavior*.

28

Robert Morris born 1733.

This liberal merchant and financial stay of the American Revolution . . . was not a native of America.—*Evert A. Duyckinck*.

29

John Adams was no half way revolutionist; he had the ring of the true metal in him; while others lagged in the rear, he pressed forward to the van, in the very front rank of this revolutionary movement, and by his side stood John Rutledge of South Carolina.—*Lives of the Chief Justices*.

30

Be not hasty to believe flying reports, to the disparagement of any one.—*Washington's Rules of Behavior*.

JANUARY 31

Go on, my dear general; crown yourself with glory, and establish the liberties and lustre of your country on a foundation more permanent than the capitol rock.—
Extract from a letter of General Lee to Washington.

FEBRUARY 1

A February face so full of frost, of storm and cloudiness.—*Shakespeare*.

1781.—Battle at Cowan's Ford.

2

"In one word, be a nation, be Americans, and be true to yourselves."—Washington's Farewell Address.

3

"Diligence is the mother of good luck."—Benjamin Franklin.

4

"In 1779 it is recorded that at a party George Washington danced for three hours with Mrs. Greene without sitting down or resting, which speaks well for the health and spirits both of the lady and the gentleman. Even after Yorktown he was ready to walk a minuet at a ball, and to the end he liked to see young people dance as he had danced himself in his youth."—"American Statesmen.

5

James Otis born 1725.

James Otis, the herald of the Revolution in Massachusetts, "the flame of fire," was born at Great Marshes, in what is now called West Barnstable.—E. A. Duyckinck.

FEBRUARY 6

1778—France signs a defensive alliance with the American States.

7

He wore black velvet and powdered hair, knee breeches and diamond buckles. . . . Let it be remembered, however, that Washington also wore the hunting shirt and fringed leggings of the backwoodsman, and that it was he who introduced this purely American dress into the army as a uniform.—American Statesman.

8.

It is hard for an empty sack to stand upright.—Benjamin Franklin.

9

“For my own part, I never did, nor do I believe I ever shall, give advice to a woman who is setting out on a matrimonial voyage; first, because I never could advise her to marry without her own consent, and secondly, because I know it is to no purpose to advise her to refrain when she has obtained it.”—Extract from a letter of Washington’s.

10

1780—Sir Henry Clinton sets sail for Charleston and takes post opposite Charleston.

1798—The French frigate *d’Insurgente*, of forty guns, was captured by the frigate *Constellation* of thirty-six guns. Commodore Tracton compelled another frigate of fifty guns to strike her colors, but she afterwards escaped in the night.

FEBRUARY 11

We must, indeed, all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately.”—Benjamin Franklin.

12

“Speak not when others speak, sit not when others stand, and walk not when others stop.”—Washington’s Rules of Behavior.

13

Washington in fact was less affected by his surroundings, and rose above them more quickly than any other man of his day, because he was the greatest man of his time, with a splendid breadth of vision.—American Statesmen.

14

1781—General Greene was driven out of North Carolina.

St. Valentine’s Day was one of the few English holidays observed in New England. . . . In England . . . the first person of the opposite sex seen in the morning was the observer’s valentine. . . .
—Note from Anna Green Winslow’s Diary.

15

Undertake not what you cannot perform; but be careful to keep your promise.—Washington’s Rules of Behavior.

16

One to-day is worth two to-morrows.—Benjamin Franklin.

17

1783—Cessation of hostilities proclaimed in London.

FEBRUARY 18

Washington's exact height was 6 ft. 2 in. in his boots; he weighed 200 pounds, and there was no surplus flesh about him. He was tremendously muscled, and the fame of his great strength was everywhere.—American Statesmen.

19

Am I loaded with care, she takes off a large share,
That the burden ne'er makes me to reel;
Does good fortune arrive, the joy of my wife
Quite doubles the pleasure I feel.

—Benjamin Franklin.

20

1815—His Majesty's sloops *Cyane* and *Levant* were captured by the United States frigate *Constitution*.

"A Yankee ship and a Yankee crew—'*Constitution*.'

"Where ye bound for? Wherever the British prizes be.

Though 'tis one to two—or one to three,
'Old Ironsides' means victory,
Across the Western ocean."

—James Jeffrey Roche.

21

1815—The British withdrew from the coast of Georgia.

22

George Washington born 1732.

Virginia gave us this imperial man—

She gave us this unblemished gentleman.

—Lowell.

FEBRUARY 23

“The pine tree flag first appeared in 1775. It was purely a New England device, and was used afloat as well as on land. The first motto known to have been put on the pine tree flag was ‘An appeal to heaven.’ This was done a year before the colonies declared their independence.”

24

1813—His Majesty’s sloop *Peacock* was sunk by the United States brig *Hornet*.

25

When a man does all he can, though it succeeds not well, blame not him that did it.—Washington’s Rules of Behavior.

26

1775—General Gage attempted to destroy the stores at Salem.

27

1782—Conway’s motion in Parliament against prosecuting the war was carried.

28

Washington knew human nature well, and had a smile for its little weaknesses when they came to his mind. It was this same human sympathy which made him also love amusements of all sorts, but he was as little their slave as their enemy.—American Statesmen.

29

Firmness, moderation, and deep religious sentiment were leading traits of Mrs. Washington.—Colonial Days and Dames.

MARCH 1

Ah! March; we know that thou art kindhearted,
Spite of thy ugly looks and threats;
And, out of sight, art nursing April's violets.

—H. H.

2

Horatio Gates, the victor of Saratoga, was a native of England, born, according to biographical account, in the year 1728.

March second 1778 caught fox with bob'd tail and cut ears, after seven hours chase in which most of the dogs were worsted.—Washington's Diary.

3

1778—Battle of Briar Creek.

March 3d, 1797.—When the cloth was removed Washington filled his glass and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the last time I shall drink your health as a public man. I do it with sincerity, wishing you all possible happiness."—American Statesmen.

4

1776—Washington gains possession of Dorchester Heights.

5

1770—The Boston Massacre.

"General Washington exhorted his soldiers to bear in mind the 5th of March!"

6

Historians have made little account of the shooting of Christopher Snider, but there can be no question that it led directly to the collision between the ropemakers and

MARCH—Continued.

soldiers one week later, resulting in the massacre of March 5th, 1770.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times, 1769-1776.

7

The Bunch of Grapes Tavern, Boston, stood on the corner of Macerel Lane and Kings Street, now Kilby and States streets. Its sign was three clusters of grapes. It was a noted tavern, often patronized by the royal Governors.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

8

The troops were ordered to Boston in 1765 in consequence of the riots growing out of the passage of the Stamp Act, the mob having sacked the house of Chief Justice Hutchinson.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

9

And there's a nice youngster of excellent pith—

Fate tried hard to conceal by naming him Smith;

But he shouted a song for the brave and the free—

Just read on his medal, "My Country, of Thee."

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

10

1778—Lord North's conciliatory bill receives the royal assent.

11

Firmness of mind, and unintermitting occupation, will not long leave you in pain.—Extract from a letter of Jefferson's.

MARCH 12

A famous dinner spread by Mrs. Abel James in 1777, for some ill fed Continental soldiers, . . . was unceremoniously interrupted by the sentry's cry, "The Red Coats are upon us!" . . . The invited guests retreated by one door, while the unbidden convives entered by the other, and taking their places at the board fell with a will upon Mrs. James' good cheer.—Colonial Days and Dames.

13

1778—Corporation of London address the King in favor of conciliation.

14

"A nation without a national government is an awful spectacle," wrote Alexander Hamilton.

15

1781—Battle of Guilford Court House, North Carolina, was fought on Thursday, the fifteenth day of March, between Gen. Nathaniel Greene, commanding the American forces, and Earl Cornwallis, commanding the British army. "It was by far the most obstinate fight I ever saw," wrote Greene to Washington.

16

James Madison born 1751.

"Purity, modesty, decorum—a moderation, temperance, and virtue in everything," said the late Senator Benton, "were the characteristics of Mr. Madison's life and manners."—Evert A. Duyckinck.

MARCH 17

1776—The British forces evacuate Boston; Washington takes possession.

18

The first time James Madison ever saw Mrs. Dorothy Todd, she was dressed in a mulberry colored satin, with a silk tulle kerchief over her neck, and on her head an exquisite dainty little cap, from which an occasional uncropped curl escaped.—American Monthly Magazine.

19

A saying of Mrs. Dolly Madison's was, "I would never forgive a woman who did not dress to please, nor one who seemed pleased with her dress.—American Monthly Magazine.

20

All the neighbors, relatives and friends were invited to make merry at the wedding of the lovely Dolly Todd and the great James Madison.—American Monthly Magazine.

21

1778—The American deputies were presented to Louis XVI.

22

1775—Burke's conciliatory propositions rejected.

23

General Washington had a large family coach, a light carriage, and chariot, all alike—cream-colored, painted with three enamelled figures on each panel—and very handsome. . . . He drove in the coach to

17

MARCH—Continued.

Christ Church every Sunday morning with two horses.
. . . . In going to the Senate he used the chariot
with six horses.—Republican Court.

24

1782—American Independence acknowledged by
Spain.

25

It was Mrs. Washington's custom to return visits on
the third day. . . . A footman would knock
loudly and announce Mrs. Washington. Her manners
were easy, pleasant and unceremonious, with the charac-
teristics of other Virginia ladies.—Republican Court.

26

Be not tedious in discourse, make not many digres-
sions, nor repeat often the same matter of discourse.—
Washington's Rules of Behavior.

27

At Mrs. Washington's levees none were admitted but
those who had either a right by official station to be
there, or were entitled to the privileges by established
merit and character; and full dress was required of all.—
American Monthly Magazine.

28

1775—The Boston Port Bill receives the royal assent.

29

The Greyhound was a much-frequented tavern in Rox-
bury, with a figure of a greyhound upon its sign. It
was in this tavern that the repeal of the Stamp Act was

MARCH—Continued.

celebrated, 1776.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

30

In 1752, when about twenty years old, Washington addressed a letter to Mr. Fontleroy, which has been preserved, asking permission to make a proposal of marriage to his daughter, "in the hope of a revocation of a former cruel sentence, and see if I cannot find an altercation in my favor." This was the most serious love affair Washington ever had, except that with the Widow Custis, which resulted in marriage.—Rev. A. N. Lewis.

31

1770—American ladies agree to disuse tea till the duty is repealed.

APRIL 1

Worse than being fooled of others is to fool one's self.—Tennyson.

2

Thomas Jefferson born 1743. "The author of the Declaration of Independence, of the statute of Virginia for religious freedom, and father of the University of Virginia."

3

"Here, perhaps, we have one of the reasons why Dr. Franklin, who was universally confessed to be the ablest pen in America, was not always asked to write the great documents of the Revolution. He would have put a joke into the Declaration of Independence, if it had fallen to him to write it."—John T. Morse.

APRIL 4

“Give up money, give up fame, give up science, give up the earth itself and all it contains, rather than do an immoral act.”—Thomas Jefferson.

5

Play not the peacock, looking everywhere about you to see if you be well decked, if your shoes fit well, if your stockings sit neatly, and clothes handsomely.—Washington's Rules of Behavoir.

6

The first business after the organization of the two houses on the sixth of April, 1789, was the opening and counting of the votes for President of the United States. Washington secured sixty-nine.—Republican Court.

7

1789—John Armstrong wrote to General Gates from New York—“All the world here are busy in collecting flowers and sweets of every kind to amuse and delight the President in his approach and on his arrival. Even Roger Sherman has set his head at work to devise some style of address more novel and dignified than “Excellency.”—Republican Court.

8

I often fancy I should have enjoyed living in the good old times, but I am glad I never was a child in Colonial New England, to have been baptized in ice water, fed on brown bread, . . . to have been forced to commit Wigglesworth's “Day of Doom” to memory.—Customs and Fashions in Old New England.

APRIL 9

Fisher Ames born 1758. "The eminent orator of Federalism."

10

General Gates died 1806. "Victor of Saratoga."

11

War of the Revolution ended April 11, 1783.

12

Mr. Adams was the first to receive official information of Washington's election, and the first to arrive in New York at ten o'clock on the morning of the twelfth of April, 1789. He left his residence in Braintree, and was escorted to Boston by a troop of horse from Roxbury. His arrival and departure were signalized by federal salutes, which were repeated at all the chief places through which he passed with his numerous retinue in Massachusetts and Connecticut.—Republican Court.

13

"If you speak of eloquence, John Rutledge of South Carolina is the greatest orator."

14

General Lafayette wrote in his old age, "The patience and endurance of both soldiers and officers was a miracle which each moment seemed to renew."

15

Perhaps the nearest approach to "Old Glory" that was essayed before the Declaration of Independence was the flag of the *Royal Savage*, first floated in 1776. It

APRIL—Continued.

had the Union Jack in the corner and the American stripes for a field.—N. Y. Herald.

16

1789—"On the evening of the 16th, about 10 o'clock, I bade adieu to Mount Vernon, to private life, and to domestic felicity; and with a mind oppressed with more anxious and painful sensations than I have words to express, set out for New York . . . with the best disposition to render service to my country in obedience to its call."—Washington's Diary.

17

Benjamin Franklin died 1790.

It appears to me that "Poor Richard's Almanac" did more than anything else towards making him familiarly known to the public. Thus it was the humblest of all his labors that has done the most for his fame.—Nathaniel Hawthorne.

18

1789—Washington arrived in Trenton. On the bridge across the Assumpink . . . a triumphal arch had been erected; on the side toward the approaching hero, was inscribed "The defender of the mothers will be a protector of the daughters."—Republican Court.

19

1775—Battle of Lexington.

"The first blood of the Revolution reddened the field at Lexington."

Roger Sherman born 1721.

Roger Sherman was of a grave and massive understanding. A man who looked at the most difficult questions and untied their tangled knots without having his vision dimmed, or his head made dizzy.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

21

"The first official flag was designed under the personal supervision of General Washington, aided by Mrs. Betsy Ross. . . . Mrs. Ross made the flag—was appointed flagmaker to the Government.—American Monthly.

22

Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he were your enemy.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

23

By whom, under whose influence, then, were we changed and made one American people? I answer, by and under no one man so much as Washington.—Rev. Daniel Sylvester Tuttle.

24

The Marquise de Lafayette, who entertained a warm friendship for Mrs. Jay, said with charming simplicity that "Mrs. Jay and she thought alike—that pleasure might be found abroad, but happiness only at home."—Through Colonial Doorways.

25

1777—Twenty-six sail of British vessels appeared off Norwalk Islands, standing in for Cedar Point.

23

APRIL 26

"Nations, like individuals, keenly feel prompt and sympathetic assistance in an hour of need or trial."—
American Monthly.

27

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard 'round the world."
—Spirit of '76.

28

James Monroe born 1758. "In person President Monroe was tall and well formed, of light complexion and blue eyes. His long and acceptable public life bears witness to his personal and intellectual qualities."—National Portrait Gallery.

29

Oliver Ellsworth born 1745. "Mr. Ellsworth evinced an inflexible integrity, the purest morality and the most unshaken firmness and independence."—Lives of the Chief Justices.

30

1789—General Washington inaugurated President of the United States.

The sun shone clearly down as if commissioned to give assurance of the approbation of the Divine Ruler of the World.—Republican Court.

MAY 1.

Oh! the sweetness of the fifth month morning.—
Walt Whitman.

MAY 2

At a wedding in New England where there were ninety-two guests, ninety-two jigs, fifty-two contradances, fifty-five minuets, and seventeen hornpipes were danced.—American Monthly.

3

A bridal dress of 1780 was "a fawn colored satin damask without a train, open in front, and over a blue satin damask petticoat. The elbow sleeves were trimmed with lace, shoes were pointed at the toe, and the heels were two inches high."—American Monthly.

4

Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us.
—From Patrick Henry's speech.

5

The first cannon-ball which entered Nassau Hall, when Washington opened a fire upon it, passed through the portrait of George the Second and destroyed it; the frame was uninjured, and left suspended upon the wall.—Pictorial Field Book.

6

"Oh! who shall know the might of the words he uttered there?
The fate of nations then was turned by the fervor of his prayer.

MAY—Continued.

But would'st thou know his name, who wandered there
alone?

Go, read, enroll'd in Heaven's archives, the prayer of
Washington." —J. L. Chester.

7

There may be, and there often is, a regard for ancestry,
which nourishes a weak pride, but there is also a moral
and philosophical respect for our ancestors, which elevates
the character and improves the heart.—Daniel Webster.

8

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and
that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judg-
ing of the future but by the past.—Extract from a speech
of Patrick Henry.

9

1787—Crossed from Mt. Vernon to Mr. Driggs's a little
after sunrise, and, pursuing the route by the way of Bal-
timore, dined at Mr. Richard Henderson's in Bladens-
burg and lodged at Major Snowden's, where, feeling
very severely a violent headache, I went to bed early.—
Extract from Washington's Diary.

10

1775—Americans under Ethan Allen take Ticonderoga
"In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental
Congress."

11

Immense fans were carried for sunshades as well as
flirting. A fan used before the Revolution, and costing
\$8, was of pictured paper with ivory frame.—American
Monthly.

MAY 12

1779—Charleston, South Carolina, surrendered to the British.

13

1787—About eight o'clock Mr. Corbin and myself set out and dined at Chester, . . . proceeded to Philadelphia. At Gray's Ferry the city light-horse, commanded by Col. Miles, met me and escorted me in; and the artillery officers who stood arranged saluted me as I passed. . . . On my arrival the bells were chimed.—Washington's Diary.

14

1787—This being the day appointed for the Convention to meet, such members as were in town, assembled at the state house; but only two states being represented, namely, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Dined in a family way at Mr. Morris's.—Washington's Diary.

15

1787—Repaired at the hour appointed to the State-House, but, no more States being represented, . . . dined with members of the general meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati.—Washington's Diary.

16

1787—No more than two states being yet represented, agreed till a quorum of them should be formed to alter the hour of meeting at the State-house to one o'clock—Dined at the President, Dr. Franklin's, and drank tea at Mr. John Penn's.—Washington's Diary.

MAY 17

1787—Mr. Rutledge from Charleston and Mr. Charles Pinckney from Congress, having arrived gave a representation to South Carolina. . . . Dined at Mr. Powell's and drank tea there.—Washington's Diary.

18

On Monday, the 18th of May, 1778, was given a great entertainment in honor of Sir William Howe and his brother Richard—Earl Howe (the naval commander) then on the eve of their departure from America. It was called the *Mischianza*, an Italian word signifying a medley.—Lossing's Field Book.

19

1787—No more States represented. Dined at Mr. Ingersoll's—spent the evening at my lodgings—and retired to my own room soon.—Washington's Diary.

20

1775—Perpetual union of the colonies.

Lafayette died 1834.

Dolly Madison born 1772.

21

Colonel Greene continued to serve his country with honor till May 14, 1787, when, at the age of forty-four years, his brilliant career was brought to a close.

22

Martha Washington died 1802.

Faithful wife, and noble lady,

Brave and tender, just and true.

—American Monthly.

MAY 23

Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance by lying supinely on our backs, and hugging the delusive phantom of Hope?—Extract from a speech of Patrick Henry's.

24

1775—Josiah Martin, Royal Governor of North Carolina, fled from Newburn, the capital of the Province, and took refuge in Fort Johnston, at the mouth of the Cape Fear River.

25

1787—Another delegate coming in from the State of New Jersey, gave it a representation and increased the number to seven, which forming a quorum of the thirteen, the members present resolved to organize the body —Washington's Diary.

26

1787—Returned all my visits this forenoon. Dined with a club at the City Tavern, and spent the evening at my quarters writing letters.—Washington's Diary.

27

Nathaniel Greene, born 1742.

“At the Brandywine, where more men were engaged than in any other battle of the war, it is well known that Greene saved the Continentals from annihilation.”

28

1787—Met in convention at ten o'clock. Two States more, namely, Massachusetts and Connecticut, were on the floor to-day Dined at home.—Washington's Diary.

29

MAY 29

Patrick Henry born 1736.

The genius of Patrick Henry was powerful, intuitive, swift. By a glance of the eye he could take in what an ordinary man might spend hours in toiling for. His memory held whatever was once committed to it, all his resources were at instant command; his faculty for debate, his imagination, humor, tact, diction, elocution, were rich and exquisite.—John T. Morse.

30

Brood o'er the land they died to save
Sweet Peace, with sheltering wing,
And freedom's stainless banner wave,
And freedom's anthem sing.

—American Monthly.

31

Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation, for it is better to be alone than in bad company.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

JUNE 1

June is the pearl of our New England year.—Lowell.

The first of June the British fleet appeared in Charleston harbor.—American Monthly.

2

1787—Major Jenifer coming in with sufficient powers for the purpose gave a representation to Maryland which brought all the States in the Union into convention, except Rhode Island, which had refused to send delegates.—Washington's Diary.

JUNE 3

Men and women feel the same inclination toward each other now that they always have done, and which they will continue to do, until there is a new order of things; and you, as others have done, may find that the passions of your sex are easier raised than allayed. Do not, therefore, boast too soon nor too strongly of your insensibility. Extract from a letter of Washington's to Nelly Custis.

Keep up a brave heart.⁴ They have begun it, that either could do, and we'll end it, that only one can do.—Joseph Warren.

⁵
1775—Flight of Lord Dunmore from Williamsburg, Virginia, to his warship *Fowey*.

⁶
Nathan Hale born 1755.

Patrick Henry died 1799. “The remarkable orator of the Revolution.”

⁷
When Mrs. Washington came from Mount Vernon to New York, after the inauguration, we are told in journals of the day that, “like her illustrious husband, she was clothed in the manufactures of our own country, in which her native goodness and patriotism appeared to the greatest advantage.”—American Monthly.

⁸
Andrew Jackson died 1843.

The child of the Revolution, the old man of seventy, closed his eyes in everlasting repose at his beloved Hermitage.—National Portrait Gallery.

JUNE 9

“ Ladies you had better leave off your high roles,
Lest by extravagance you lose your poor souls;
Then haul out the wool, and likewise the tow,
Twill clothe our whole army, we very well know.”

—A Revolutionary Soldier.

—Customs and Fashions in Old New England.

10

Let your recreations be manful, not sinful.—Washington’s Rules of Behavior.

11

Joseph Warren born 1741.

We study men’s lives backward to discover the germs of excellence in their youth; may we not also prophesy of what would have been had opportunity been given? No augury of excellence could well be based on a surer foundation than the hope which was dashed to the ground with the fall of Warren.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

12

Nathaniel Greene died 1786.

“ Sir, he stood high in the opinion of Washington.”

13

Love is said to be an involuntary passion, and it is therefore contended that it cannot be resisted. This is true in part only, for, like all things else, when nourished and supplied plentifully with aliment, it is rapid in its progress; but let these be withdrawn and it may be stifled in its birth or much stunted in its growth. . . .

—Extract from Washington’s Letter.

JUNE 14

On Saturday, June 14, 1777, the American Congress took the first legislative action of which there is any record for the establishment of a national flag for the sovereign United States of America.—American Monthly.

15

1775—General Washington made commander-in-chief of the continental forces.

16

No shout disturbs the night,
Before the fearful fight,
There was no boasting high—no marshaling
Of men, who ne'er might meet again,
No cup was filled and quaffed to victory.

—John Neal.

17

1775—The Battle of Bunker Hill.

Death of Warren. Burning of Charleston.

"The old Continentals, in their ragged regimentals, faltered not."—Lossing's Field Book.

18

1778—Philadelphia evacuated by the British.

19

Richard Henry Lee died 1794.

One of that band of high-minded gentlemen in Virginia whose intelligence and spirit gave the strength of manhood to the infancy of the Revolution.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

JUNE 20

1778—We have heard an astonishing piece of news: The English have entirely left the city; it is almost impossible. Evening—A horseman has just confirmed the above intelligence. They decamped yesterday. It is true; they have gone, past a doubt. May they never, never return. I understand that General Arnold has command of the city. I now think of nothing but returning to Philadelphia.—From the diary of Miss Sally Wister.

21

It was not until June 21, 1788, that nine States ratified the Constitution.

22

If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it. If we desire to secure peace—one of the most powerful instruments of our prosperity—it must be known that we are at all times ready for war.—Extract from a speech of Washington.

23

To call up our ancestors before us, with all their peculiarities of language, manners and garb, to show us over their houses, to seat us at their tables, to rummage their old wardrobes, to explain the uses of their ponderous furniture, these parts of the duty which properly belong to the historian, have been appropriated by the historical novelist.—Macaulay.

24

Watson says that weddings in Old Philadelphia, even among Friends, were "very expensive and harassing to

JUNE—Continued.

the wedded." The bride's home was filled with company to dine, the same guests usually staying to tea and supper, while for two days punch was served in great profusion.—Colonial Days and Dames.

25

At one of her ladyship's drawing rooms, owing to the extreme lowness of the ceiling, the ostrich feathers in the head-dress of a most distinguished belle, in New York city, (Miss Mary McEvers), took fire from the chandelier. They were extinguished by one of the gallant gentlemen clapping them between his hands.—American Monthly.

26

"His integrity was most pure, his justice the most inflexible I have ever known; no motives of interest or consanguinity of friendship or hatred being able to bias his decision."—So wrote Jefferson of Washington.

27

The Battle of Monmouth was one of the most severely contested during the war.—Lossing's Field Book.

28

1778—Battle of Monmouth. Retreat of Charles Lee, victory of Washington.

1776—Charleston, South Carolina, attacked by Sir Peter Parker and Sir Henry Clinton; after ten hours' fighting the British were repulsed by Sir Henry Clinton.

29

"Mrs. Knox" says the Duke de la Rochefoucauld Linn-coust, "is a lady of whom you conceive a still higher

JUNE—Continued.

opinion the longer you are acquainted with her. Seeing her in Philadelphia you think of her only as a fortunate player at whist; at her house in the country you discover that she possesses sprightliness, knowledge, a good heart, and an excellent understanding.”—Republican Court.

30

Tradition states that the “lowland beauty” was a Miss Grimes, of Westmoreland, afterwards Mrs. Lee, and mother of General Henry Lee, who figured in revolutionary history as Light Horse Harry, and was always a favorite with Washington, probably from the recollections of his early tenderness for the mother.—Washington Irving’s *Life of Washington*.

JULY 1

The green hollows are filled with blossoming elder—white as a lake of milk. The pimpermell is awake. The world is at high tide of delight.—Celia Thaxter.

2

We cannot claim great antiquity for our flag, and yet it is older than the present flag of Spain or Germany or China or Japan or the tricolor of France, and twenty years older than the one now used by Great Britain.—*American Monthly*.

3

When liberty is the prize, who would shun the warfare? Who would stoop to waste a coward thought on life?—Extract from a Letter of Joseph Warren’s.

JULY 4

1776—Declaration of Independence.

That old bell is still seen by the patriots' eye
And he blesses it ever when journeying by.

—Lossing's Field Book.

On the fourth of July, 1826, passed away the two great apostles of American liberty—Thomas Jefferson and John Adams.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

5

1779—New Haven, Conn., plundered by the British.

6

1781—Battle near Jamestown Ford.

Daniel Morgan born 1736.

Paul Jones born 1747. "The popular naval hero of the Revolution."

7

Our flag adopted officially 118 years ago; first waved above the colors of Great Britain after the Battle of Oriskany. When Fort Stanwix was under siege by a combined force of British and Indians, an American flag had been hastily improvised, the officers giving up their white shirts to furnish the white stripes, and enough remnants of red flannel having been found to piece out the red ones. A blue military cloak was sacrificed to form the blue field, and the remaining bits of white cotton were cut into stars.—American Monthly.

8

Let us stand by one another, then, and fight it out like brave soldiers.—From Putnam's speech.

JULY 9

1776—On the 9th of July Washington had the declaration read at six o'clock in the evening at the head of each brigade of the army.

10

In person, Daniel Morgan was large and strong. He was six feet in height and very muscular. Patriotism and valor were the prominent features of his character, and the honorable services he rendered to his country during the Revolutionary War crowned him with glory, and will remain in the hearts of his countrymen, a perpetual monument to his memory.—Lossing's Field Book.

11

John Quincy Adams born 1767. He comes nobly heralded upon the scene of our Revolutionary annals.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

12

In person, Captain Hale was handsome, and in manners, frank and engaging. He was bold and soldierly in his bearing, and fond of the society of refined ladies, and a general favorite with them.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

13

Francis Marion was a true, unflinching patriot, a man of deeds, and not of words; a prudent, sagacious soldier, not sudden or quick in quarrel, but resolute to the end.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

14

The great fête of Colonial society was a tea drinking, beginning at six and ending at nine. It was a great display of hospitality and housewifery.—The Spirit of '76.

JULY 15

Pure and disinterested virtue must ever be its own reward. Mankind are too selfish and too depraved to discern the pure gold from the baser metal.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

16

1779.—Stony Point taken by the Americans.

Soon Wayne's watchfires at the outposts

Set the murky night ablaze!

Thus was Stony stormed and captured

In the brave colonial days.

—Sara B. Kennedy.

17

One purpose then we had in view—

To form of States a union true;

And eyes and hearts were turned to you,

Our banner—grand Old Glory.

—Thomas Dunn English.

18

Justice and self-preservation are duties as much incumbent upon Christians as forgiveness and love of enemies.—Extract from Abigail Adams' letter.

19

Of all the thirteen original Colonies, Connecticut, founded by the learned, wise and polished John Winthrop, the younger, blessed with a liberal charter and unimpeded growth—was the Mecca for men of cultured mind.—The Spirit of '76.

20

1775—Continental Fast Day.

39

JULY—Continued.

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. . . . For so the whole round earth is every way bound by gold chains about the feet of God.—Tennyson.

21

In his "Instructions" Washington commits the conduct of the war to Greene's prudence and judgment. Both were needed for his coming work. It was an undertaking of delicacy and peril, which would have disheartened a less discreet or persevering commander.—E. A. Duyckinck.

22

Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

23

Roger Sherman died 1793. But good lineage and intellectual powers of a high order were not adequate of themselves to form such a character as Sherman's. It was to be tried in the school of poverty and to buffet the waves of adversity.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

24

Life is too short to have the dearest of its enjoyments curtailed; the social feelings grow callous by disuse, and lose that pliancy of affection which sweetens the cup of life as we drink it.—Extract from a Letter of Abigail Adams.

JULY 25

Henry Knox born 1750. Knox, in his manly frame, had a woman's heart and tenderness. The brotherhood of the Society of the Cincinnati, founded as well with the idea of "cordial affection" among the officers of the war, as of patriotism, is said to have originated at the suggestion of General Knox, and he became the general secretary of that body on its organization.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

26

George Clinton born 1739. "A soldier and statesman of the Revolution."

27

1779—General Washington made his headquarters at West Point. The house he occupied was situated in what is now called Washington's Valley.

28

I believe there is no one principle which predominates in human nature so much, in every stage of life, from the cradle to the grave, in males and females, old and young, black and white, rich and poor, high and low, as this passion for superiority.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

29

Of all Connecticut's cities, New London, famous old seaport on the Thames, has most claim to be considered the distinctly original expression of the residential town.
. . . . Here Winthrop upreared his roof-tree; here he joyfully returned from the cares of state; here Saltin-stall and other governors, jurists, teachers and soldiers

JULY—Continued.

dwelt; here Washington and Lafayette partook of social cheer.—The Spirit of '76.

30

1780—"General Washington arrived at the Robinson House, situated on the opposite side of the river, a little below West Point. This house is still standing. It was also Arnold's headquarters at the time he was commanding at West Point and maturing his plans to betray the fortress into the hands of the enemy, and thus by one blow annihilate the hopes of the independence of the colonies."

31

Hope is an anchor and a cordial,
Disappointment however will not disconcert us.
—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

AUGUST 1

Nothing is too slight to be precious; the flashing of an oar-blade in the morning light; the twinkling of a gull's wings afar off, like a star in the yellow sunshine of the drowsy summer afternoon.—Celia Thaxter.

2

Portsmouth, New Hampshire, at this period was the seat of a refined and generous hospitality, and few cities in America could boast of a more cultivated or polite society.—Republican Court.

3

Martha Washington, the patient, untiring, unassertive, gentle yet strong, dignified and right-minded wife, made her presence felt in camp to help as in the Court to adorn.
—The Colonial Magazine.

AUGUST 4

As Mrs. Wolcott was moving with her accustomed ease and dignity through a dance, her figure arrested the attention of Liston, the British minister, who exclaimed, turning to Tracy, "Your countrywoman would be admired even at St. James." "Sir," replied the senator, "she is admired even on Litchfield Hill."—Rufus Wil-mot Griswold.

5

Go not thither when you know not whether you will be welcome or not. Give not advice without being asked, and when desired, do it briefly.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

6

1777—General Herkimer was defeated and slain.

Colonel Willet and Lieutenant Stocton cut their way through the English camp to alarm the country and gain assistance.

1778—Sumpter defeats the British at Hanging Rock.

7

Thaddeus Kosciusko was born in 1736, of an ancient and noble family. He came to America and presented himself to the Commander-in-Chief, saying, "I come to fight as a volunteer for American Independence."—Hollis-ter's History of Connecticut.

8

Henry Laurens, the eminent South Carolinian, was born in 1724. He sacrificed property, ease, health, and freely perilled his life in the cause of his country.—Hollis-ter's History of Connecticut.

AUGUST 9

Let us be cheerful whatever happens. Cheerfulness is not a sin in any times.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

10

Every action in company ought to be with some sign of respect to those present.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

11

John Stark took command of the forces gathering on the frontier at Bennington prepared for the attack of the enemy, who on the 11th of August, 1777, began their advance on Saratoga.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

12

Joel Barlow born 1755. He was one of the celebrities of the Revolutionary era. The author of the "Columbiad."—E. A. Duyckinck.

13

Don't be in the dumps, above all things. I am hard put to it to keep out of them. . . . But I will be gay if I can.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

14

1772—Lord Hillsborough was succeeded by the Earl of Dartmouth as American Secretary of State.

15

1778—Sullivan besieges Newport.

16

1777—The British defeated at Bennington.

"Now, my men, there are the red-coats! Before night

AUGUST—Continued.

they must be ours, or Molly Stark will be a widow.”—
E. A. Duyckinck.

1780—Battle near Camden and defeat of the Americans
by Cornwallis, in which Baron De Kalbe is wounded.

17

Jonathan Trumbull died 1809. Industrious, quiet, unselfish, trustworthy and with a head never giddy, however steep the precipice upon which he stood, and a heart that kept all secrets confided to it as the deep wave holds the plummet that is dropped into its bosom.—Hol-
lister's History of Connecticut.

18

Baron De Kalbe, a German officer, . . . came to America in 1777 with Lafayette and other foreign officers. . . . His distinguished talents and many virtues weighed with Congress to appoint him Major-General in the Revolutionary Army.—Lossing's Pictorial Field Book.

19

The man who violates private faith cancels solemn obligations. Whom neither honor nor conscience holds shall never be knowingly trusted by me.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

20

1781—"General Washington took up his headquarters at the house of Josiah Seth Smith, below Stony Point. . . . Beneath its roof, on September 22nd, 1780, Andre and Arnold had their meeting."

AUGUST 21

Break not a jest where none take pleasure in mirth. Laugh not aloud, nor at all without occasion. Deride no man's misfortune, though there seem to be some cause.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

22

1776—The British land on Long Island.

23

I was struck with General Washington. You had prepared me to entertain a favorable opinion of him, but I thought the half was not told me. Dignity, with ease and complacency, the gentleman and soldier, looked agreeably blended in him.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams

24

1783—General Washington arrived at Rocky Hill, four miles north of Princeton. "It was there he occupied the last headquarters of the Revolution. The house was the home of Judge Derrien; although somewhat dilapidated is still standing."

25

. . . For the meeting of the General Congress at Philadelphia, Washington was joined at Mount Vernon by Patrick Henry and Edmund Pendleton, and they performed the journey together on horseback. It was a noble companionship. . . . Well may we say of that eventful period, "There were giants in those days."—Washington Irving's *Life of Washington*.

26

Patrick Henry scouted the idea of sectional distinc-

AUGUST—Continued.

tions, or individual interests. . . . "All America," said he, "is thrown into one mass. I am not a Virginian, but an American."—John Adams' diary.

27

1782—The last action in the war was near Combahee Ferry, South Carolina.

1776—Battle of Long Island. Howe defeats the American generals Putnam and Sullivan. "It is the twenty-seventh of August and the British have landed. The battle begins, and goes against us. Behold through the smoke Washington's face."—Walt Whitman.

28

John Stark born 1728.

1781—Cornwallis enters Yorktown.

29

1778—Battle of Rhode Island.

30

"There is a natural firmness in some minds which cannot be unlocked by trifles; but which, when unlocked, discovers a cabinet of fortitude."—Washington Irving's *Life of Washington*.

31

I know America's capable of anything she undertakes with spirit and vigor. "Brave in distress, serene in conquest, drowsy when at rest," is her true characteristic—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

SEPTEMBER 1

'Twas autumn, and a clear and placid day—a day
With silver clouds, and sunshine on the grass.
And in the sheltered and the sheltering groves
A perfect stillness.

—Wordsworth.

2

The young ladies from the country used to come to the balls at Annapolis, riding with their hoops arranged “fore and aft,” like lateen sails ; and after dancing all night, would ride home again in the morning.—Washington Irving’s *Life of Washington*.

3

It seems human nature is the same in all ages and countries. Ambition and avarice reign everywhere, and where they predominate there will be bickerings after places of honor and profit.—Extract from Abigail Adams’ letter.

4

“Modesty and mildness are the finest ornaments of the soul.”—Maxim of Penn’s.

5

1774—The first Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and sat with closed doors for more than fifty days. Washington and Patrick Henry were among the delegates from Virginia.—*Colonial Magazine*.

6

1781—The traitor, Arnold, burned New London.
The bloody battle of Fort Griswold fought in Groton.

Gilbert Motier de Lafayette born 1757.

SEPTEMBER—Continued.

The name of Lafayette has long been coupled with that of Washington. Both were men of justice, modesty, untiring usefulness and activity, combined with great moderation.—E. A. Duyckinck.

7

Think before you speak; pronounce not imperfectly, nor bring out your words too hastily, but orderly and distinctly.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

8

1781—Battle of Eutaw Springs.

These springs are in Charleston district, near the Orangeburg line, about sixty miles northwest of Charleston.—Lossing's Field Book.

9

"There were many traits in the character of John Rutledge calculated to attract the popular admiration. He was bold, open, frank and ardent in temper and disposition, and was gifted with those captivating conversational powers which rarely failed to find their way to the sympathies and hearts of his fellows."—Lives of the Chief Justices.

10

General Lee looks like a careless, hardy veteran, and by his appearance brought to my mind his namesake, Charles the Twelfth of Sweden. The elegance of his pen far exceeds that of his person.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

11

1777—Battle of Brandywine. The Americans defeated.

SEPTEMBER 12

Every fashionable dame of these far-off Colonial days wore a frontage—that is, a head-dress formed of rows of plaited muslin stiffened with wire, one above the other, and diminishing in size as they rose.—Spirit of '76.

13

The dress of the gentlemen was rich with silver lace, the coats lined with silk, the waistcoats of satin, sometimes 'broidered in seed pearls, the breeches trimmed with silver at pockets and knees; the stockings of silk, and the low shoes adorned with immense silver buckles.—Story of the City of New York.

14

There is in our hearts an indignation against wrong that is righteous and benevolent; and he who is destitute of it is defective in the balance of his affections and in his moral character.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

15

New York evacuated by the Americans in 1776 and occupied by the British. For seven years two months and ten days from this date the city of New York remained in possession of the British.

16

Some faults have we all, and so has my Joan,
But then they're exceedingly small;
And now I've grown used to them so like my own,
I scarcely can see them at all.
—Benjamin Franklin.

SEPTEMBER 17.

On September 17, 1787—a day ever to be memorable—Washington affixed his bold and handsome signature to the Constitution of the United States.—American Statesmen.

18

A not unworthy daughter-in-law of the thrifty mistress of the Blue Bell was Deborah Reed, the wife of Benjamin Franklin, whose dignity, discretion and great patience during the long absences of her “dear child” entitle her to the respect and admiration of those who revere her more brilliantly endowed husband.—Colonial Days and Dames.

19

Life takes its complexion from inferior things. It is little attentions and assiduities that sweeten the bitter draught and smooth the rugged road.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

20

The sanctity and quiet of Sunday were strictly observed by Washington.—Washington Irving's *Life of Washington*.

21

I also forgot, among the china, to mention a large fine jug for beer, to stand in the cooler. I fell in love with it at first sight, for I thought it looked like a fat, jolly dame, clean and tidy, with a neat blue and white calico gown on, good natured and lovely, and put me in mind of—somebody.—Extract from a letter of Franklin's to his wife.

SEPTEMBER 22

1776—Nathan Hale executed in New York.

His last words, his message words,

They burn, lest friendly eye should read how proud and
calm

A patriot could die with his last words, his dying words,
A soldier's battle cry!

—F. M. Finch.

23

Major Andre captured 1779.

24

Pride, vanity, envy, ambition and malice are the ungrateful foes that combat merit and integrity; though for a while they may triumph, to the injury of the just and good, the steady, unwearied perseverance of virtue and honor will finally prevail over them.—Extract from Abigail Adams's letter.

25

1781—"General Washington had his headquarters at the house of Chancellor Wythe at Williamsburg, Va. Among the associations of the past connected with this mansion is a legend to the effect that a titled dame, Lady Skipwith, appears periodically to the tenants of to-day. She is always dressed in rustling silk brocade, and her little feet encased in high-heeled slippers."

26

Patience, perseverance and firmness will overcome all our difficulties.—Extract from a Letter of John Adams.

27

1777—Philadelphia occupied by the British.

SEPTEMBER—Continued.

Samuel Adams born 1722. Mr. Adams was born and tempered a wedge of steel to split the knot of lignum vitae which tied North America to Great Britain.—John Adams.

28

Although we cannot avoid first impressions, we may assuredly place them under guard.—Extract from a letter of Washington's.

29

They were sad coquettes in their youth—these fair dames—although they look so demure in their portraits and proved such exemplary wives and mothers in later years. Duels and despairing lovers seem scarcely to have ruffled the serenity of their lovely countenances, or to have made their hearts beat faster under their stiff bodices. Did they realize, with a wisdom beyond their years, that heart-breaks were not of necessity fatal. Yet how crushed and bruised the poor hearts seemed!—Colonial Days and Dames.

30

Providence has wisely placed the real blessings of life within the reach of moderate abilities; and he who is wiser than his neighbor sees so much more to pity and lament, that I doubt whether the balance of happiness is in his scale.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

OCTOBER 1

Welcome, O brown October, like a monk with a drinking horn, like a pilgrim in russet.—Longfellow.

OCTOBER 2

Major Andre hung as a spy in 1779.

3

1777—Battle of Germantown.

I really am of the opinion that there are few of the young fellows of the modern age exempt from vanity, more especially those who are blessed with exterior graces. If they have a fine pair of eyes they are forever rolling them about; a fine set of teeth, mind, they are great laughers; a genteel person, forever changing their attitudes to show them to advantage. Oh, vanity, vanity; how boundless is thy sway.—From Miss Sally Wister's Diary, 1777.

4

Time misspent and faculties misemployed, and senses jaded by labor or impaired by excess cannot be recalled.—American Statesmen.

6

Washington's residence in New York—The first presidential residence was at the junction of Pearl and Cherry streets, Franklin Square.—Washington Irving's Life of Washington.

6

1781—General Lincoln had the honor of opening the first parallel before Yorktown.

7

1780—Battle of King's Mountain. The British general Ferguson totally defeated by the mountaineers of the Carolinas.

1777—Second battle near Stillwater.

OCTOBER 8

John Hancock died 1793.

He was easy and engaging in his manners; liberal in the employment of his wealth, turning his influence to good account.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

9

1779—Battle of Savannah.

10

The Dorothy Quincy who married John Hancock is not to be confounded with the Dorothy Q. of Holmes's poem.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

11

Speak no evil of the absent, for it is unjust.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

12

Jonathan Trumbull born 1710. As the Revolution approached, it was to men like Trumbull that the country specially looked for advice and counsel.—E. A. Duyckinck.

13

. . . . Washington triumphed gloriously as never soldier triumphed before over enemies, over circumstances, over himself, and plucked glory for himself, freedom for us, help for the world from the very darkness of engulfing desperation.—Rev. Daniel Sylvester Tuttle, D.D., S.T.D.

14

William Moultrie, the distinguished major-general of the Revolution was one of the earliest as well as ablest

OCTOBER—Continued.

supporters of the popular cause. Born, according to some accounts, in England, about the year 1730.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

15

“Jonathan Harrington, the fifer of the Lexington minute men, was sixteen years old.”

16

The term “Brother Jonathan” was frequently applied by Washington to Governor Trumbull. When he wanted honest counsel and wise, he would say, “Let us consult Brother Jonathan.”—Hollister’s History of Connecticut.

17

1777—Burning of Kingston.

1777—Surrender of General Burgoyne.

18

“Would we, therefore, be true to the instincts of human nature if, as Americans, we felt no pride in these great facts, or allowed them to sink into obscurity with the lapse of time?”—Colonial Magazine.

19

1781—Battle of Yorktown. “Past two o’clock and Cornwallis is taken.” “The proud army of British veterans under Lord Cornwallis marched out of their entrenchments to the old British tune “The World Turned Upside Down,” and surrendered their arms, thus closing the active military operations of the War for American Independence.”

OCTOBER 20

In the presence of others sing not to yourself with a humming noise, nor drum with your fingers or feet.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

21

1777—A company destined for reinforcement of Fort Mifflin, across the river, arrived at Red Bank for the night, bringing news of a march of about twelve hundred Hessians under Colonel Dunop in their rear on their way to attack Red Bank.—Lossing's Pictorial Field Book.

22

May the blood spilled by thousands with equal merit in the cause of independence and freedom be to the ensuing generations an eternal pledge of unalloyed republicanism, federal union, public prosperity and domestic happiness.—Toast given by Lafayette in 1825.

23

1777—Battle of Red Bank. The whole country rang with the story of Colonel Greene and his brave Rhode Island garrison. Washington at once sent him an elegant silver sword, which the brave colonel never saw.—American Monthly Magazine.

24

Some of the old provincial mile-stones, however, remain, and put us closely in touch with the past. . . . Between Boston and Philadelphia there are moss-grown stones that were set under the supervision of Benjamin Franklin when he was Colonial Postmaster-General.—Customs and Fashions in Old New England.

OCTOBER 25

1774—The Edenton Tea Party. At the residence of Mrs. Elizabeth King, at Edenton, North Carolina, fifty-one patriotic ladies met and passed resolutions commending the action of the Provincial Congress. They also declared that they would not conform “to that pernicious custom of drinking tea,” or that the aforesaid ladys would not promote ye wear of any manufacture from England, until ye tax was repealed.—American Monthly Magazine.

26

“Nathaniel Greene was born a general.”

27

John Adams was diligently employed in the preparatory measures which led to the Declaration of Independence and confederation of the following year. As the time approached, his activity and boldness were displayed as the full grandeur of the scene rose to his mind.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

28

1776—Battle of White Plains.

29

On the evening of the 29th of October, 1773, the Sons of Liberty again assembled at the Green Dragon. A ship had dropped anchor off Castle William, bringing the news that Parliament had passed a law taxing tea.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

30

The Green Dragon stood in Green Dragon Lane, now Union Street. . . . The rooms were named Devon

OCTOBER—Continued.

shire, Somerset, Norfolk respectively, for the shires of England.—Daughters of the Revolution and Their Times.

31

On one occasion at a dinner table, several officers swore in conversation. Washington laid down his knife and fork and said: "I thought we were all gentlemen." —Extract from an address by the Rev. A. N. Lewis.

NOVEMBER 1

Like birds of passage that have taken their departure, so abruptly blossoming June, midsummer, and nutty brown October have journeyed into other lands.—Sylvester.

2

John Cadwalader drilled and entertained . . . this company, "The Greens," called in derision the "Silk Stocking Company," most of its members being gentlemen who afterwards formed a part of General Cadwalader's brigade, which distinguished itself on many battlefields.—Colonial Days and Dames.

3

1783—The American army disbanded.

4

The battalion of Associators, known as "The Greens," and commanded by John Cadwalader, . . . wore green uniforms faced with buff, their hats a hunter's cap, and "were without exception the genteelest companies he (Silas Deane) had ever seen.—Colonial Days and Dames.

NOVEMBER 5

Heaven seems to have granted us our desire. May it also direct us to improve it aright.—Extract from a Letter of Abigail Adams.

6

With respect to the distribution of your time, the following is what I should approve: From 8 to 10, practice music; from 10 to 1, dance one day and draw another; from 1 to 2, draw on the day you dance and write a letter next day; from 3 to 4, read French; from 4 to 5, exercise yourself in music; from 5 till bed time, read English, write, &c.—Extract from a letter of Thomas Jefferson to his daughter Martha.

7

The olden time girl, except in the house of the Puritan and the Quaker, was taught to dance as well as to use her needle. . . . Dr. Franklin expressed great interest in Sally's dancing.—Colonial Days and Dames.

8

Madam Faith Trumbull contributed her scarlet cloak to the soldiers of the Revolution in 1777. It was afterwards cut into strips and employed as red trimming to stripe the dress of the American soldiers.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

9

1775—Lord George Germaine becomes American Secretary of State.

10

I was dressed in a light French blue coat, with a high collar, broad lapels, and large gilt buttons, a double-

NOVEMBER—Continued.

breasted Marseilles vest, Nankeen—colored cassimere breeches, with white silk stockings, . . . and full lace ruffles on my breast and at my wrists, together with a ponderous white cravat, with a pudding in it, as we then called it; and I was considered the best dressed gentleman in the room.—Extract from a letter to Gen. Morris.

11

If virtue was to be rewarded with wealth it would not be virtue. If virtue was to be rewarded with fame it would not be virtue of the sublimest kind.—Extract from a letter of John Adams.

12

Be not forward but friendly and courteous, the first to salute, hear, and answer; and be not pensive when it is a time to converse.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

13

"Laurence Washington, . . . called Mount Vernon, after the British admiral Vernon, under whom he had served in the Spanish war. . . . He died 1752, leaving George the guardian and eventual inheritor of Mount Vernon."—Colonial Magazine.

14

A veteran officer of the Revolution used to speak in his old days of the occasion on which he first saw Hamilton. It was during the memorable retreat through the Jerseys. "I noticed" said he, "a youth, a mere stripling, small, slender, almost delicate in frame, was marching beside a piece of artillery, with a cocked hat pulled down over his eyes, apparently lost in thought, with his

NOVEMBER—Continued.

hand resting on the cannon, and every now and then patting it as he mused, as if it were a favorite horse or pet plaything."—Washington Irving's *Life of Washington*.

15

1777—The Articles of Confederation were adopted by Congress.

16

1776—Fort Washington taken by the British.

17

I shall call that my country where I may most glorify God and enjoy the presence of my dearest friends.—
Extract from a letter of Governor Winthrop.

18

1776—Fort Lee evacuated.

1777—The Americans evacuate Fort Mercer.

19

In glancing over the colonies North and South there seems to have been no life more delightful than that of Maryland and Virginia. Handsome, spacious mansions, a fertile soil, genial climate, fine horses and retinues of servants conspired to give the home life of the Southern planter many of the characteristics of English country life.
—Colonial Day and Dames.

20

Not a word of her face, of her shape, or her air,
Or of flames, or of darts, you shall hear;
I beauty admire, but virtue I prize,
That fades not in seventy year.

—Benjamin Franklin.

NOVEMBER 21

Nature has made more insects than birds, more butterflies than eagles, more foxes than lions, more pebbles than diamonds. The most excellent of her productions, both in the physical, intellectual and moral world, are the most rare.—Extract from Abigail Adams' letter.

22

God helps them who help themselves.—Benjamin Franklin.

23

It was in the drawing-room of Mrs. Robert Morris that the Prince de Broglie performed his feat of tea-drinking, accepting one cup of tea after another because they were offered to him by a lady, as he afterwards explained, adding, "I should be even now drinking it if the ambassador had not charitably notified me at the twelfth cup that I must put my spoon across it when I wished to finish with this sort of warm water."—Colonial Days and Dames.

24

Colonial women faced perils and difficulties with unfailing heroism and patience. "To find a way or make one" seemed to be the motto of the hour. Danger developed latent courage, and emergency seemed to whet mother wit to keen edge.—Colonial Days and Dames.

25

. . . But the day of days . . . was when the lady . . . came down the steps as a bride in her travelling dress of rich silk, attended by the groom, who was

NOVEMBER—Continued.

brave in satin, velvet and shining buckles. When the steps of the great black chariot with its yellow wheels were let down, and the bride stepped in and the groom took his place beside her, the moment was intensely thrilling—the last act in this drama of love. Are there any such weddings now? Are there any brides like those?—Colonial Days and Dames.

26

The famous belle, Mrs. Vining, in a letter to Governor Dickinson in 1783, wrote, "Here, or more properly speaking, in New York, you enter the room with a formal set curtsy, and after the how-do's, things are finished; all's a dead calm till the cards are introduced, when you see pleasure dancing in the eyes of all the matrons, and they seem to gain new life."—Republican Court.

27

1778—British forces sail for Georgia.

28

Where there is most learning, sense and knowledge, there is always observed to be the most modesty and rectitude of manners.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

29

When we look into the faces of some of these Colonial dames, as they have come down to us in portraits of the time, and read there the strength, nobility and self-restraint that the lines disclose, we realize how much these women contributed toward the character-building that rendered

NOVEMBER—Continued.

the Revolutionary period an almost phenomenal epoch in the history of nations.—Colonial Days and Dames.

30

If men turn their backs and run from an enemy, they cannot, surely, expect to conquer him.—Extract from a letter of Abigail Adams.

DECEMBER 1

Softly, thickly, fastly fall the snowflakes—like the seasons of life upon man.—L. K. Marvel.

2

Richard Montgomery born 1736. The noble-spirited hero, of vivid intellect and ardent susceptibilities, brought military experience and domestic virtue to the service of the Revolution.—Evert A. Duyckinck.

3

Vapors avaunt! I will do my duty and leave the event. If I have the approbation of my own mind, whether applauded or censured, blessed or cursed by the world, I will not be unhappy.—John Adams.

4

“On December 4th, Washington’s officers assembled in Fraunces’s Tavern to bid him farewell. Taking a glass of wine, he lifted it up and said simply, “With a heart full of love and gratitude, I now take my leave of you, most devoutly wishing that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable.”

1782—Charleston evacuated by the British.

DECEMBER 5

It was General Washington's custom frequently, when the day was fine, to come out to walk attended by his secretaries, Mr. Lear and Major William Jackson, one on each side. He always crossed directly before his own door to the sunny side of the street and walked down. He was dressed in black, and all three wore cocked hats.—From the Note Book of the late Mrs. Horace Binney Wallace of Philadelphia.

6

Sunday at home with my family thinking, reading, searching, concerning taxation without consent.—John Adams's Diary.

7

Washington was to open the session of Congress. He stood in all his civic dignity and moral grandeur—erect, serene, majestic. His costume was a full suit of black velvet; his hair, in itself blached by time, powdered to snowy whiteness; a dress sword at his side, and his hat held in his hand.—Mr. Richard Rush.

8

1776—Washington crossed the Delaware.

"These," wrote Thomas Paine, "are times that try men's souls."

9

It may be the action at Great Bridge, near Norfolk, Virginia, fought December ninth, 1775, is entitled to the honor of being called the first victory of the Revolution.—American Monthly Magazine.

DECEMBER 10

Governor Wolcott in a letter to his mother from New York, writes: "As there appears to be great regularity here; honesty is as much in fashion as in Connecticut; and I am persuaded that there is a much greater attention to good morals than has been supposed."—Republican Court.

11

In the early part of the Revolution the very boys wore wigs, and their dress was similar to that of the men.—American Monthly Magazine.

12

John Jay born 1745. The Christian patriot of the Revolution. His favorite maxim was—"Those who own the country ought to govern it."—Evert A. Duyckinck.

13

Broad-minded, higher-souled, there is but one who was all this, and ours, and all men's Washington.—Lowell.

14

General Washington died 1799.

Thrice favored Virginia—to have formed the early life of such a man, to have rocked his cradle, and to contain his ashes.—Richard Rush.

15

Blessed be that man who is possessed of true love of liberty; let all the people say Amen.—From the Rev. David Jones's address.

DECEMBER 16

1773—Boston Tea Party.

How odd it is that the liberties of America should have anything to do with a cup of tea.—Hawthorne.

17

The waters in the rebel bay
Have left their tea-leaf savor,
Our old north enders in their spray—
Still taste a Hyson flavor.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

18

Be not angry at table whatever happens; and if you have reason to be so, show it not; put on a cheerful countenance, especially if there be strangers; for good humor makes one dish a feast.—Washington's Rules of Behavior.

19

Lafayette wrote to his wife in 1777: "Host and hostess sit at the table with you and do the honors of a comfortable meal; and on going away you pay your fare without higgling."—Customs and Fashions of Old New England.

20

About Christmas time, 1777, Mr. Bushnell committed to the Delaware River a number of his "infernal machines" in the form of kegs, which he designed should float down and destroy the British fleet at Philadelphia; but the strange squadron having been separated and retarded by the ice, demolished but a single boat.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

DECEMBER 21

The cannons roar from shore to shore;

The small guns loud did rattle;

Since wars began, I'm sure no man

E'er saw so strange a battle.

From morn to night, these men of might

Displayed amazing courage,

And when the sun was fairly down,

Repaired to sup their porridge.

—The Battle of the Kegs.

22

When a person or people are in a state of perplexity, and know not what to do, they ought never to do I know not what.—From a letter of John Adams.

23

Washington resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the American armies 1783.

24

Oldmixon describes Germantown in 1700 as composed of one street a mile in length, lined on each side in front of the houses with blooming peach trees.—Hollister's History of Connecticut.

DECEMBER 25

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men
free,

While God is marching on.

—Mrs. Julia Ward Howe's Battle Hymn.

DECEMBER—Continued.

On Christmas Day in Seventy-six,
Our ragged troops, with bayonets fixed,
For Trenton marched away.
—Moore's Ballads and Songs of the Revolution.

26

1776—Battle of Trenton.

27

"The Trenton campaign has all the qualities of some of the last battles fought by Napoleon in France before his retirement to Elba. Moreover, the battles show not only generalship of the first order, but great statesmanship."

28

The earliest roads for travel throughout New England followed the Indian trails or paths, and were but two or three feet wide.—Customs and Fashions in Old New England.

29

1778—The British captured Savannah.

30

"Our women of the Revolution were strong factors from its incipency and through every step of its progress; they worked untiringly with hands and brains, providing food, clothes, and all that was needful—watchful of the fold and of events; quick of wit, clever at expedients, skilful in diplomacy, and as spies unequalled."
—The Colonial Magazine.

“As yet our histories contain scarcely more than the groundwork; the record of marches, skirmishes, defeats, losses, want and suffering, and, to crown all, the glorious fruition so long struggled for, so hardly won; but when these fireside tales of home life and personal adventures run like a thread of shining gold through this fabric of bare cold facts, giving brightness, life and warmth to our revolutionary history, then will shine forth also the glorified faces of the women factors, and their factorship be recorded.”—The Colonial Magazine.



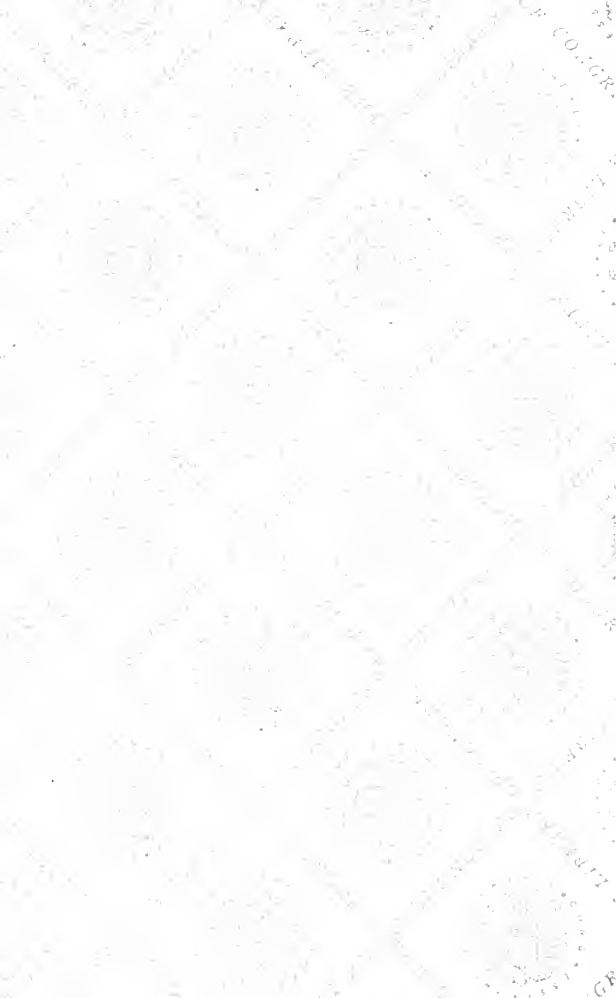
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